

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraph starting on page 4, line 8 to read as:

In addition to the above-mentioned technologies, there are other technologies about switching devices for use in transmission path switching (see Japanese Pat. No. 2848502, Japanese Pat. No. 3068605 **3068065**, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1992)33501, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (2000)349502, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1990)90723, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1996)213891, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1991)145801, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1992)346513, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1994)85641, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1998)313266, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1998)335901, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1995)235802, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1994)132701, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (2002)141794, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1996)288400, Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1997)27736, and Japanese Pat. *Kokai* Pub. No. (1997)107203).